

**BE SAFE  
CHICAGO** ★★



**Be Safe.  
Construction**

# Be Safe. Construction

What's in this guide?

★ CAUTIOUSLY REOPEN  
(Phase III)

## Cautiously reopening Chicago requires:

### Healthy interactions

#### Social distancing



Limitations on physical distance to other individuals

#### Gathering size



Limitations on gatherings of individuals

#### Protective gear



Use of protective gear by individuals

### Hygiene requirements



Ensuring hygienic interactions (e.g., hand washing)

### Safe spaces and conditions

#### Entry access



Entry/exit condition for access to space

#### Cleaning standards



Actions taken to disinfect space

#### Visual guidance



Hygiene resources and guidance posted in space

### Workplace conditions



Evaluation of foot traffic, ventilation, etc.

### Operational resilience and monitoring

#### Flexible models



Flexibility with sick leave, remote work (when possible)

#### Operational resiliency



Support for operational flexibility (e.g., multiple shifts)

#### Travel guidelines



Restriction of movement of people between locations

#### Testing / tracking



Facilitation of testing and tracking

- Recommended guidance -

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## **Practice social distancing guidelines, unless they create a safety hazard**

- Identify areas where workers are likely to congregate (break areas, hallways, hoists, stairways, etc.), and close or ensure distancing policies are maintained (e.g., by installing markers to direct movement)
- Assign employees to designated work areas and discourage physical contact between employees (e.g., no hand shaking, no hugs)
- Optimize shifts to decrease number of workers in the same space at the same time to promote social distancing
- Discourage the shared use of vehicles; work with employees to find workarounds and solutions



## **Only allow for small gatherings during meetings or "huddles", with no more than 10 people and with appropriate distancing**

- No more than 10 people in any meetings or choke points on the site (e.g., ingress/egress spots)



## Provide appropriate PPE for based on site

- In any outdoor and indoor common spaces, face coverings must be worn over nose and mouth (exceptions can be made for people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering or if a safety hazard on a worksite)
- Require PPE during work that necessitates frequent contact with others, or where social distancing is not possible (e.g., elevator or hoist operation/construction, or other constrained/confined spaces)
- To the extent possible, conduct work outside of hours where public is present
- Provide appropriate PPE, including—but not limited to—face masks, shields, and any additional equipment required by State or Federal Law



## Establish hygiene standards

- Provide access to handwashing facilities
- Encourage frequent handwashing with soap and water on site by workers and worksite visitors
- Supply employees with their own alcohol-based hand rubs and/or disposable disinfectant wipes to carry about the jobsite
- Encourage employees to complete health and safety training related to COVID-19 when returning to work
- Prohibit shared food (e.g., buffet style meals) and encourage employees to bring home lunches
- Conduct daily field orientations on safety, site protocols, and COVID-19 using decentralized Tool Box Talks
- Require subcontractor training and safety certification that includes information on COVID-19 topics

# Be Safe. Construction

Safe spaces and working conditions



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Entry  
Access

## Limit number of access points and screen those entering work sites

- Minimize entry or exit points to the work site
- Build barricades to restrict public access, and where possible, conduct work outside of hours where others are present
- Prior to leaving home, all individuals encouraged to self-identify symptoms and stay at home if symptomatic
- Prior to entering workplace, employees self-screen to ensure no symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., questionnaire – see appendix)



Cleaning  
standards

## Establish cleaning standards for worksites and high-touch surfaces

- Clean sites & heavy transit areas thoroughly between every shift, at a minimum
- In the event of a positive case, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting exposed areas to minimize potential for exposure to other employees in line with [CDC guidelines](#)
- Clean high-touch surfaces (e.g., shared tools, machines, vehicles, handrails, portable toilets) every 4 hours and/or after any change in personnel handling
- In the event vehicles must be shared, ensure proper cleaning

# Be Safe. Construction

Safe spaces and working conditions



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Visual  
guidance



Work-  
place

## Post guidelines for customers to enter site (e.g. wearing of PPE, hand sanitizing requirements), including language stating customers enter at their own risk

- Include guidelines on new operating conditions of work site (e.g., wearing of PPE, hand sanitizing requirements, etc.)
- Include language stating customers enter at their own risk

## Promote simplified workplace conditions to minimize contact between people

- Establish work spaces and traffic flow patterns that follow CDC guidelines for social distancing, where possible
- Close non-essential common areas unable to comply with CDC guidelines
- Organize the placement of materials to minimize movement outside of work spaces on the site

# Be Safe. Construction

## Operations and monitoring



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**Flexible  
models**

### Reduce in-person work to minimize exposure

- Enact different protocols for different construction sites based on space constraints and ability to restrict access to site
- Adjust working hours and shifts (e.g., A/B crews, designated arrival/departure) to reduce density at the work site, minimize contact across employees, and prevent congestion at entry points (especially in space-constrained or open worksites)
- Work with vulnerable/compromised employees to find safer workplace accommodations (e.g., shift to positions with lower contact with other individuals, work off site when possible)



**Operation  
resiliency**

### Encourage behavior to limit interaction

- Limit shift overlap of employees, when possible



**Travel  
guidelines**

### Prohibit non-essential travel

- Limit travel to essential business operations only (e.g., product deliveries, supply chain continuity, maintaining critical infrastructure)

- Recommended guidance -



## Follow CDPH and CDC guidance for testing and tracing protocols

- If employee does contract COVID-19, they must follow all CDC guidelines before returning to work
- If an employee is identified as being COVID-19 positive by testing, cleaning and disinfecting must be performed according to CDC guidelines
- Any employee who has had close contact with co-worker or any other person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 should self quarantine according to CDC guidelines
- If a facility becomes aware of 2 or more cases possibly associated with an establishment over a 14 day period, employers are required to report cases to CDPH
- Follow all other CDPH guidance set forth and comply with CDPH recommendations in response to a workplace outbreak



## Glossary

**Gathering:** A planned or spontaneous event where individuals are interacting with non-household members within close proximity (<6 ft) for an extended period of time

**Handwashing:** The act of thoroughly cleaning one's hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using a disinfectant capable of eliminating the virus that causes COVID-19

**Social distancing:** The physical spacing of at least six feet between individuals, or groups of individuals.

**PPE:** Personal protective equipment (e.g., face coverings, goggles, face shields); requirements vary based on industry and specific circumstances

## Self-screening sample questionnaire

**Self-screening:** A protocol by which an employee answers questions at the start of a shift. Subject to the guidance of the Commissioner of Health, the questions may include:

- Have you had a body temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit or have you used a fever reducer in the previous 24 hours to treat a body temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit?
- Do you have a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Do you have a new or worsening sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Do you have new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?
- Have you recently developed a complete loss of smell or taste?



## General workplace guidance

### National resources for further guidance

**CDC** – *Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President's Plan for Opening America Up Again:*  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf>

**CDC** – *Guidance for Businesses and Workplaces*  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>

**OSHA** *Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19:*  
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>

**Associated General Contractors of America** – *COVID 19 Resources:*  
<https://www.agc.org/coronavirus>

**OSHA** – *COVID 19 Guidance for Construction:*  
<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA4000.pdf>

## Construction guidance

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